Alexander Pope (1688 – 1744) was a poet famous for his moral satires and mock epics, as well as his use of the heroic couplet.[1] Pope's professional opportunities were limited because of his Catholic faith and poor health throughout his life.[2]

Pope began his foray into pastoral poetry with his first major poem, *Pastorals* (1705). He explored the intellectual and emotional reach of poetry within formal composition rules, satirizing the poet's dedication to these rules in his famous poem *An Essay on Criticism* (1711). In 1712 Pope started to write mock epic poetry with the *Rape of the Lock*, which he followed with a famous verse translation of Homer's *Iliad*, which took six years to complete.

During the 1720s, Pope published multiple versions of a mock heroic the *Dunciads*, cementing his reputation as a satirist. [3] However, his poem *An Essay on Man* (1734-35) marked a move away from satire back to the poetic essay. [4] He continued to write poetic epistles, as well as the *Books of Horace*, until his death in 1744. [5]


### Evidence for Inclusion in Wythe's Library

Listed in the Jeffeson Inventory of Wythe's Library as Pope's works. 9 v. 8vo. and given by Thomas Jefferson to his daughter Martha. The precise edition of the set owned by Wythe is unknown. George Wythe's Library[7] on LibraryThing indicates as much, adding "Numerous nine-volume editions in octavo were published, the first at London in 1751." The Brown Bibliography[8] lists the first edition (1750-1751) published in London, and this was the edition purchased by the Wolf Law Library.

### Description of the Wolf Law Library's copy

Bound in nineteenth century hard-grained morocco, spines and edges gilt, with silk markers in each volume. Ownership inscription in each volume of J. Barnard; bookplates of Charles and Mary Lacaita on each front pastedown. Purchased from Christopher Edwards.
Alexander Pope: Alexander Pope, poet and satirist of the English Augustan period, best known for his poems An Essay on Criticism (1711), The Rape of the Lock (1712–14), The Dunciad (1728), and An Essay on Man (1733–34). He is one of the most epigrammatic of all English authors. Pope's father, a wholesale linen.  The Iliad was completed in six volumes in 1720. The work of translating the Odyssey (vol. i–iii, 1725; vol. iv and v, 1726) was shared with William Broome, who had contributed notes to the Iliad, and Elijah Fenton. The labour had been great, but so were the rewards. By the two translations Pope cleared about £10,000 and was able to claim that, thanks to Homer, he could “…live and thrive / Indebted to no Prince or Peer alive.”